

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING WITH CHALK —Traditional Sources



Priest: Peace be to this house.

All: And to all who dwell herein.

Priest: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.

During the Magnificat, the room is sprinkled with holy water and incensed.

All:

My soul proclaims the greatness
of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for He has looked with favor
on His lowly servant.

From this day all generations
will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things
for me,
and holy is His Name.

He has mercy on those who fear Him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength
of His arm,
He has scattered the proud
in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty
from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry
with good things,
and the rich He has sent away
empty.

He has come to the help
of His servant Israel
for He remembered His promise
of mercy,
the promise He made to our fathers,
to Abraham and His children
forever.

Glory be to the Father

All: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.

Priest: Our Father Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead and lead us not into temptation,
All: But deliver us from evil.

Priest: All they from Saba shall come
All: Bringing gold and frankincense.
Priest: O Lord, hear my prayer.
All: And let my cry come unto Thee.

Priest:
Let us pray.

O God, who by the guidance of a star didst on this day manifest Thine only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, mercifully grant that we who know Thee by faith may also attain the vision of Thy glorious majesty.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Priest: Be enlightened, be enlightened, O Jerusalem, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee—Jesus Christ born of the Virgin Mary.
All: And the Gentiles shall walk in thy light and kings in the splendor of thy rising, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon thee.

Priest:
Let us pray.

Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

After the prayers of the blessing are recited, walk through the house and bless each room by sprinkling with Epiphany/holy water and incensing it.

The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became man two thousand and twenty-____ years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the New Year. Amen.

Take the blessed chalk and first write the initials of the three Wise Men, connected with Crosses, over the inside of your front door (on the lintel, if possible). Then write the year, breaking up the numbers and the year so that they fall on both sides of the initials. It should look like this, for example:

20+C+M+B+25

with the "20" being the millennium and century, the "C" standing for the first Wise Man, Caspar, the "M" standing for Melchior, the "B" standing for Balthasar,

and the "25" standing for the decade and year. The Kings' initials stand also for "Christus mansionem benedicat" ("Christ bless this house"). The five + represent also the Five Holy Wounds and the central Cross and M symbolize Mary at the foot of the Cross.

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Your Incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen.

God of heaven and earth, You revealed Your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect Your love. We ask this through Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Loving God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and abiding in Your will. We ask this through Christ our Saviour. Amen.

